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TO: Administrators
FROM: Gail Schauer, Director
Office of Teacher & School Effectiveness
DATE: July 6, 2016
RE: Competency-Based Education

With the new ESSA law bringing forth new opportunities to implement more flexible and innovative activities, there is no doubt that Competency-Based Education will be part of the discussion of the future. Here is an opportunity for you to advance the innovative ideas and projects in your school. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) is looking specifically for districts that would be interested in serving as a pilot to implement a Competency-Based Education (CBE) model. To assist with this project, NDDPI held a one-hour webinar on Competency-Based Education (CBE) on June 27, 2016 with presenter Matt Williams from Knowledge Works. This recorded webinar can be found at <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/TSE/initiatives/CBE/>.

For those schools/districts interested in planning CBE activities, a one-day training on CBE will be held on August 15, 2016 in Bismarck. This training is for schools just beginning to plan or those already in process looking for ideas to expand their CBE activities. It's critical that you bring a team; there will be team planning time with the goal of completing the day with a direction and strategies to begin implementing.

Tentative Agenda includes:

- Research-Based Information on Competency-Based Education – David Yanoski from REL Central
- District Conditions to Scale Personalized Learning – Matt Williams from Knowledge Works
- Teamwork Time Around Assessment (This includes district/school teamwork; bringing a team is critical) – Matt Williams from Knowledge Works
- Identifying and Addressing Policy Barriers – Matt Williams from Knowledge Works
- Opportunities in ESSA – Matt Williams from Knowledge Works

For more information on Competency-Based Education and to find the registration form for the August 15, 2016 training, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BSS3CHW>.

If you have any questions, please contact Gail Schauer, Director in the Office of Teacher and School Effectiveness, at gschauer@nd.gov or (701) 328-2755.